

Paul develops this step under three motifs:

- 1. death to our old relationship to the Law;**
- 2. present internal spiritual conflict; and**
- 3. life to a new relationship to the Law.**

- 1. The first motif may be expressed in the assertion: We are dead to our old relationship to the Law.**

This motif is expressed in three verses:

Romans 6:14- “ You are not under law, but under grace”

Romans 7:4- “So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ.....”

Romans 7:6- “But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the letter.”

In our old relationship to the Law, from God’s point of view we were under the demands of God’s perfect, spiritual standard of righteousness; and because we were sinners we were under the Law’s condemnation. From our point of view the Law as a formal, external set of rules by which to make ourselves presentable to God, and by which to earn God’s approval upon our lives.

But now having been united to Christ, we are no longer under the Law’s demands and its condemnation. We are delivered from and are dead to the binding authority of the Law to require perfect obedience from us upon pain of condemnation and eternal death for failure.